GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

CA,F & CS Department – Public Distribution System – Introduction of millets viz., Ragi and Jowar under MSP Operations for distribution through Public Distribution System in lieu of Rice – Orders - Issued.

CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (CS.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.5 Dated:17.02.2023.

Read :

Commissioner of Civil Supplies, file No. FCS02-Pds1021/19/2022-SUPDT.PDS-CCS

****

ORDER:

According to Section 3 of the National Food Security Act, 2013, every person belonging to priority households, identified shall be entitled to receive 5 Kg of food grains per person per month from the State Government under the Targeted Public Distribution System and the households covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana shall be entitled to receive 35 Kgs of food grains per household per month.

2. The Department of Health and Family Welfare has emphasized to take action to diversify the food basket from the rice to other nutritious food grains for prevention and management of hypertension, diabetes and other Non-Communicable life style related Diseases.

3. On the instructions of Government, Commissioner, Civil Supplies has conducted a survey with the Rice cardholders to obtain their willingness/opinion to avail Ragi and Jowar through P.D.S. in lieu of Rice. Positive response has been received from the rice cardholders for taking of Ragi and Jowar under PDS in lieu of rice.

4. As the economic cost of Ragi and Jowar is less than the economic cost of rice, there is no additional financial burden to the State Government on distribution of Ragi and Jowar in lieu of rice.

5. During the review meeting held by Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Andhra Pradesh on 18-01-2023 a decision has been taken for introduction of Ragi and Jowar in lieu of Rice under P.D.S. by implementing MSP operations for millets.

6. The Commissioner of Civil Supplies has proposed to introduce Ragi and Jowar distribution under PDS as a pilot in 4 erstwhile Rayalaseema districts in lieu of Rice upto @ 2Kgs per Rice card by procuring Ragi and Jowar from farmers by the Andhra Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd., Vijayawada at MSP.

7. In the circumstances stated above, Government after examination of the matter here by ordered to distribute the Millets i.e., Ragi and Jowar under Public Distribution System in lieu of rice as per NFSA norms. Ragi and Jowar shall be distributed on par

with rice at free of cost up to December, 2023 as per guidelines issued by the Government of India on distribution of free food grains.

8. The Commissioner of Agriculture Department is directed to take necessary steps to increase the area of cultivation of Ragi and Jowar in the State and to increase their production so as to earn more income by the farmers through MSP rate and also to meet the requirement of the State under P.D.S. in coordination with the Commissioner of Civil Supplies and the APSCSCL. Considering the availability of stocks of Ragi and Jowar, distribution of the food grains under PDS will be extended to the remaining areas of the State in phased manner.

9. The Commissioner of Agriculture Department is directed to share the e-crop data of Ragi and Jowar to the Vice Chairman & Managing Director, A.P. State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited, Vijayawada for incorporating the same in Procurement Portal.

10. The V.C. & Managing Director, A.P. State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited, Vijayawada is requested to procure the Ragi and Jowar from the farmers under the MSP Operations based on the e-crop data shared by the Agriculture Department for distribution under PDS.

11. The Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for FAQ Ragi and Jowar fixed by Government of India for the KMS 2022-23 are as follows:

Ragi	:	Rs.3,578/- per quintal
Jowar	:	Rs.2,970/- per quintal (Hybrid)
		Rs.2,990/- per quintal (Maldandi)

12. The Uniform Specifications for Ragi and Jowar fixed by Government of India are hereunder:

JOWAR FAQ SPECIFICATIONS

The Jowar shall be dried and matured grains of *Sorghum Vulgare*. It shall have uniform size and shape. It shall be in sound merchantable condition and also conforming to prescribe norms under Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006/Rules prescribed hereunder.

Jowar shall be sweet, hard and clean, wholesome and free from *Argemone Mexicana* and *Lathyrus sativus* (khesari) in any form, colouring matter, moulds, weevils, obnoxious smell, admixture of deleterious substances and all other impurities except to the extent indicated in the schedule below:

S.No	Refraction	Maximum Limit (%)
1	Foreign matter *	1.0
2	Other food grains	3.0
3	Damaged grains	1.5
4	Slightly damaged & discoloured grains	1.0

* Not more than 0.25% by weight shall be mineral matter and not more than 0.10% by weight shall be impurities of animal origin.

N.B.

1. The definitions of the above refractions and method of analysis are to be followed as given in Bureau of Indian Standards 'Method of Analysis for food grains' Nos. IS: 4333 (Part-I): 1996 and IS: 4333(Part-II): 2002 and 'Terminology for food grains' IS: 2813-1995 as amended from time to time.

2. The method of sampling is to be followed as given in Bureau of Indian Standards 'Method of sampling of Cereals and Pulses' No. IS: 14818-2000 as amended from time to time.

3. Within the overall limit of 1.0% for foreign matter the poisonous seeds shall not exceed 0.025% and 0.2% respectively.

4. Kernels with glumes will not be treated as unsound grains. During physical analysis the glumes will be removed and treated as organic foreign matter.

RAGI FAQ SPECIFICATIONS

The Ragi shall be dried and matured grains of *Eleusine coracana*. It shall have uniform size and shape. It shall be in sound merchantable condition and also conforming to prescribe norms under Food Safety & Standards Act, 2006/Rules prescribed hereunder.

Ragi shall be sweet, hard and clean, wholesome and free from moulds, weevils, obnoxious smell, *Argemone Mexicana* and *Lathyrus sativus(khesari)* in any form, colouring matter, admixture of deleterious substances and all other impurities except to the extent indicated in the schedule below:

S. No	Refraction	Maximum Limits (%)
1	Foreign matter *	1.0
2	Other food gains	1.0
3	Damaged grains	1.0
4	Slightly damaged grains	2.0
5	Moisture content	12.0

* Not more than 0.25% by weight shall be mineral matter and not more than 0.10% by weight shall be impurities of animal origin.

N.B.

1. The definitions of the above refractions and method of analysis are to be followed as given in Bureau of Indian Standards 'Method of Analysis for food grains' Nos. IS: 4333 (Part-I): 1996 and IS: 4333(Part-II): 2002 and 'Terminology for food grains' IS: 2813-1995 as amended from time to time.

2. The method of sampling is to be followed as given in Bureau of Indian Standards 'Method of sampling of Cereals and Pulses' No. IS: 14818-2000 as amended from time to time.

3. Within the overall limit of 1.0% for foreign matter the poisonous seeds shall not exceed 0.5% of which Dhatura and Akura seeds (*Vicia* species) not exceed 0.025% and 0.2% respectively.
4. Kernels with husk will not be treated as unsound grains. During physical analysis the husk will be removed and treated as organic foreign matter.

13. The Commissioner of Civil Supplies, AP, Vijayawada and Vice Chairman and Managing Director, Andhra Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited are requested to take necessary action in the matter.

14. The detailed guidelines and instructions with Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) will be intimated.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

H. ARUN KUMAR
EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Commissioner of Civil Supplies, Andhra Pradesh. Vijayawada.
The Vice chairman and Managing Director, Andhra Pradesh State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited, Vijayawada.
The Spl Chief Secretary, Agriculture Marketing and Co-Operative Department.
The Commissioner of Agriculture Marketing and Co-Operation Department, Andhra Pradesh. Vijayawada.
Copy to:
The P.S. to Principal Secretary to Chief Minister , Government of Andhra Pradesh,
The OSD to Hon'ble Minister for Civil Supplies, Government of Andhra Pradesh,
The P.S. to Chief Secretary to Government
The Finance Department .
The Director, Printing and Stationery, to publish the same in AP Gazette.
SC/SF (Computer No.1906651)

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER